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sented by him, said that at first sight the ivory carvings appeared to have some relation to phallic worship; and after hearing the interesting paper on that subject at the last meeting, it occurred to him that they might have some interest if placed in the Society's museum. He was inclined to believe, however, that the indecent character of those and of other works by the natives of West Africa, proceeded from the naturally warm and prurient imaginations of those people, and that they were not associated with worship of any kind. The people of Loango were very clever in works of the description which were on the table. There were two caps made of grass, one from Sierra Leone, and the other from Loango; the latter, which was much ornamented, was worn as a mark of distinction; and he had another, of much superior workmanship, which was presented to him on being invested with certain honours by the King of Loango. Among the other articles on the table was a large ornamented ivory hair-pin, which was used by the native women of Gaboon and Camme to scratch their heads; for their hair being only dressed once a month, or less frequently, and then in a very elaborate manner which they were careful not to derange, they were obliged to use an article of the kind exhibited.

Dr. G. D. GIBB read a paper "On the essential Differences observable between the Larynx of the Negro and that of the White Man." (This paper will appear in the *Memoirs*.)

The thanks of the meeting were given to the author of the paper.

Mr. HOLTHOUSE was called on by the President to make some remarks on the subject, but he said it was so long since he had examined the larynx in negroes that he could only confirm generally the statements of Dr. Gibb.

Mr. CARTER BLAKE said that the author of the paper gave for the first time some accurate facts as to the larynx of the negro compared with that of Europeans, but there were certain considerations to which M. Pruner-Bey and other writers had directed attention, that required to be further investigated. In M. Pruner-Bey's work on the negro the following important passage occurs:—"M. Eschricht has found the muscles of the larynx very strong, the crico-thyroidei are especially large; he has moreover found that a portion of the fibres of these last muscles ascend to the internal surface of the thyroid cartilage." And M. Pruner-Bey then added the conjecture, "may this be a trace of the internal crico-thyroid muscles of the hylobate apes?" He should be glad if they could have some accurate information on the point, whether the deviation was really in any way homologous with the muscle described by Raffles in the Siamang. With regard to the question whether the peculiarities described by Dr. Gibb in the larynx of the negro prevail also in the gorilla, the chimpanzee, and the ouran outan, he should like to hear whether the larynx in those animals had been examined to ascertain this fact. It might be expected *a priori* that the vocal chords would be different, as the noise made by these apes is so different from the sound of the human voice. Cuvier and other writers on comparative anatomy are silent as to the muscles

of the larynx in many apes. As to the confusion which Dr. Gibb noticed prevails between the descriptions of the cartilages of Wrisberg and that of Santorini, it might perhaps be explained by supposing that the difference between the cartilages had not been observed, for in some of our best manuals of dissection no mention is made of the Wrisbergian cartilage.

Mr. D. W. NASH observed that the most interesting part of the question related to the function of the voice, and whether the difference observed in the structure of the larynx of the negro and European enabled us to trace any difference of species. Three principal distinctions had been pointed out by the author of the paper; but were they sufficient to make anthropologists move in that direction? The views expressed by Mr. Woolner certainly deserved attention. It seemed natural to conceive that the difference between the quadrumana and man should be sought for in the organ that most distinguishes man from the lower animals; but it would be fallacious to seek to ascertain that difference only by the structure of the vocal chords, for the power of speech does not depend so much on the power of making particular sounds as on the power of appreciating them. The quadrumana might possess organs adapted for the purpose, and there might be no anatomical reasons to prevent the gorilla from speaking, as some birds have been taught to utter words, but they want the power to appreciate and understand the value of the sounds; and it must be to the brain they should look to distinguish that power. The brain of the lower animals does not enable them to make the requisite applications of the sounds. Though the paper was one of great interest, he doubted whether it showed that the differences in the larynx of the negro and the white man were sufficient as indications of distinction of species. In conclusion, Mr. Nash remarked on the want of a more accurate and definite anthropological terminology, and he directed the attention of the Society to that subject.

Mr. MACKENZIE coincided with Mr. Nash in the desire to see a more accurate and comprehensive terminology adopted in anthropological science. He proposed that they should form a committee to promote the design of publishing an anthropological encyclopædia. Though it might not be possible for any single member to complete such a work satisfactorily, they might all contribute towards it by sending to their assistant secretary, Mr. Blake, any ideas that occurred to them. Mr. Blake, he knew, took in every thing like blotting paper, and he would be able to transfer those ideas and make them available for the purpose. A recording office was wanted for the collection of suggestions and facts, and he thought that they could not do better than for each one to contribute his quota to the formation of a work that was so much wanted for the promotion of anthropological science.

Mr. BENDYSHE remarked, that it had been said by Mr. Spurgeon, in one of his sermons, that whatever was recorded on earth was recorded in heaven; and he should be glad if their Society had a recording angel to note down all the facts relating to their science, and that they should find them all recorded there. But, unfortu-

nately, in this world it was very difficult to collect and record information systematically; but it was very desirable that everything which was worth record should be properly written down.

Mr. BOLLAERT said he, as a believer in the Polygenistic idea, had mentioned in his paper on the "Past and Present Populations of the New World," that the comparatively unprolific character among themselves of the Mestizos from Spaniard and the Indian woman, in all probability is caused from the great difference in physiological characteristics, and he had mentioned that he hoped comparative examination would be made on the organs of generation of the white and red man species. We had some observations on the differences of brain in the Indian, but these observations on the larynx of the negro was a grand commencement of the true physiology connected with the various species of man.

The PRESIDENT observed that the practical application of the differences pointed out in the paper between the larynx of the negro and European, as indicating the European and African to be distinct species, must be considered on some future day; but they had that evening only to deal with simple facts. The great attention that had been paid by Dr. Gibb to the structure of the larynx rendered his communication very valuable. He (the President) had derived great pleasure and instruction from hearing it; and he thought it impossible to dissent from the statements that had been made. The observations respecting the cartilages of Wrisberg were important, and if not contradicted, must lead to further inquiry into the quadrumana; and the remarks of Mr. Nash respecting the distinction established by the power of speech deserved further consideration. He had been for a long time convinced that distinction of voice was of the highest value as the basis of deductions regarding distinction of species; and there was little doubt that a negro could be distinguished from an European by the voice. He was therefore prepared to agree with the deductions and observations made by Dr. Gibb. A single marked character, he thought, if constant, would be sufficient to establish a distinction between the European and African. He would not, however, go into the question that evening.

Dr. GIBB, in reply to the observations made on his paper, said that with regard to the remarks of Mr. Blake, he had observed an alteration in the position of the negro's thyro-arytenoid muscle as compared with that in the white man, and that portion of the muscle in contact with the upper and inner surface of the thyroid cartilage, would be in accordance with the opinions of the anatomists mentioned by Mr. Blake. As to the differences between the black and white races of mankind, that was a question on which he was not prepared to say anything. He could not say that there was a greater resemblance between the larynx of the negro and quadrumana than in Europeans. There was an analogy, but it was not sufficient to enable him to draw any inference of distinctive difference. At the meeting of the British Association at Bath, he had confirmed the researches of Battaille in relation to the minute anatomy of the thyro-arytenoid muscle; he approved of the name *triceps laryngea*, and he hoped future anatomists would adopt that term. He considered it one of the most

remarkable muscles in the human body. Necessarily, from the altered position of the ventricles in the negro, there must be corresponding differences in these muscles; but in his paper he had mainly confined himself to the three essential points already described. As to the question whether the gorilla, chimpanzee, and ouran outan had been examined by the laryngoscope, he observed that it was impossible to make observations with that instrument in the larynx of those animals in a living state. He had not extended his observations to other races of mankind, but if the opportunity occurred he would do so. His idea was, that those cartilages he had pointed out as invariably present in the larynx of the negro, existed in some other races of mankind, but not in all.

Dr. PEACOCK then read a paper *On the Weight of the Brain and Capacity of the Skull of a Negro*. [This paper is inserted in the *Memoirs* of the Society.]

The thanks of the meeting having been given to the author of the paper,

Dr. PEACOCK made some observations on the various substances employed to ascertain the capacity of skulls. He said it was most important that in all such measurements the same substance should be employed by all anatomists. Some employed sand, others shot, and others again used pepper-corns or millet seed, the use of which various substances was liable to occasion diversity in the results. He had tried them all, and objections might be raised to each; but, though in the measurements given in the paper he had used millet seed to correspond with the observations of Tiedemann, he preferred sand as least objectionable. Whether millet seed or sand was best might be matter of doubt, but it was at all events most desirable that the same kind of substance should be employed by all.

Mr. MACKENZIE made some observations with reference to the importance of having a standard mode of measurement. Sand was not perhaps the best, and a better substance might be found, but he thought the suggestion of Dr. Peacock was so valuable that the Society ought to adopt a resolution to try and obtain a good average standard of measurement.

The PRESIDENT said that the Council of the Society were engaged in forming instructions for their local secretaries, with the view of getting all anthropologists to work on one uniform plan. It appeared to him that there was less objection to dry sand than to other substances. He hoped that ere long general instructions on the subject would be prepared; they were now collecting data, and when they had all the facts before them they would be able to come to a decision. As to the paper that had been read, the history of the specimen exhibited was not sufficiently satisfactory to enable them to draw any sound inference; but the facts mentioned were of considerable importance. A great difficulty had been found in obtaining specimens of pure negro skulls; and unless there were an authentic history attached to a skull it was uncertain whether it was the skull of a pure negro or otherwise, for the negro races were much mixed.